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RULE 63 (37 CFR § 1.63)  
DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION  
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor, together with Mark S. Crowder of 8235 West 108th Avenue, Broomfield, Colorado 80021, Richard E. Rupp, Jr. of P.O. Box 852, Berthoud, Colorado 80513, Robert Turner of 2835 Signal Creek Drive, Thornton, Colorado 80241, and Meherab Amaria of 4352 Fern Avenue, Broomfield, Colorado 80020, of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "MAGNETIC RECORDING HEAD PROTECTION", the specification of which having been filed on October 10, 2001, and further identified as Attorney File No. 3123-380.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a) and (b) as set forth on the attached sheet indicated Page 4 hereof and which I have read.

I hereby claim priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any provisional application(s) for patent listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in such prior applications in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a) and (b) which occurred between the filing date(s) of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
60/239,158	October 10, 2000	Expired

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120/365 of all United States and PCT international applications listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in such prior applications in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a) and (b) which occurred between the filing date(s) of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status: patented, pending, abandoned</u>
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

(1) Inventor's Signature Mark S. Crowder Date 10/18/01

Inventor's Name (typed): Mark S. Crowder

Citizenship: U.S.A.

Residence: 8235 West 108th Avenue  
Broomfield, Colorado 80021

Post Office Address\*: Same as Residence

\*Complete Post Office Address in full if different from Residence, otherwise indicate that the Post Office Address is "Same as Residence."

(2) Inventor's Signature R. Rupp Date 10/18/01

Inventor's Name (typed): Richard E. Rupp, Jr.

Citizenship: U.S.A.

Residence: P.O. Box 852  
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(3) Inventor's Signature Robert Turner Date 10/23/01

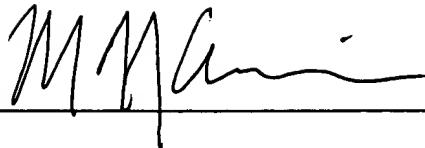
Inventor's Name (typed): Robert Turner

Citizenship: U.S.A.

Residence: 2835 Signal Creek Drive  
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(4) Inventor's Signature  Date 10-18-01

Inventor's Name (typed): Meherab Amaria

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37 CFR §1.56(a) and (b)  
DUTY TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION MATERIAL  
TO PATENTABILITY

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of a patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.\*

\*Note, 37 CFR §1.97(h) states: "The filing of an information disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b)."

## GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

On behalf of Maxtor Corporation, a Delaware corporation having a principal place of business at 2452 Clover Basin Drive, Longmont, Colorado 80503 I, William O. Sweeney, V.P., Associate General Counsel of Maxtor Corporation, hereby appoint:

David M. Sigmund of Maxtor Corporation, Registration No. 34,013; and

David F. Zinger, Registration No. 29,127; Craig C. Groseth, Registration No. 31,713; Sabrina C. Stavish, Registration No. 33,374; Todd P. Blakely, Registration No. 31,328; Lewis D. Hansen, Registration No. 35,536; Joseph E. Kovarik, Registration No. 33,005; Gary J. Connell, Registration No. 32,020; Wannell M. Crook, Registration No. 31,071; Douglas W. Swartz, Registration No. 37,739; Bruce A. Kugler, Registration No. 38,942; Robert R. Brunelli, Registration No. 39,617; Tejpal S. Hansra, Registration No. 38,172; Dana Hartje Cardwell, Registration No. 40,638; Angela K. Dallas, Registration No. 42,460; Benjamin B. Lieb, Registration No. 42,801; Bradley M. Knepper, Registration No. 44,189; Miriam Drickman Trudell, Registration No. 42,499; Dennis J. Dupray, Registration No. 46,299; Todd M. Petersen, Registration No. 45,580; Kenneth C. Winterton, Registration No. 48,040; Robert D. Traver, Registration No. 47,999; Brent P. Johnson, Registration No. 38,031; Mark L. Yaskanin, Registration No. 45,246; and Mollybeth R. Kocialski, Registration No. 42,754, of SHERIDAN ROSS P.C., 1560 Broadway, Suite 1200, Denver, Colorado 80202-5141, telephone number 303/863-9700, as attorneys and agents for MAXTOR CORPORATION before the U.S. Patent Office, any foreign patent offices and all competent International Authorities in connection with any and all U.S., foreign and international patent applications filed on behalf of MAXTOR CORPORATION, with full powers of substitution, association and revocation, and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and all foreign and international patent offices connected therewith.

Date: July 5, 2001

By: William Sweeney  
Name: William Sweeney  
Title: Vice President Associate  
General Counsel